

CIACO NID 81 [REDACTED]

March 14, 1981

SITUATION REPORTS

POLAND

The government evidently is allowing Solidarity's national leadership to try to moderate the demands of the workers in Radom before agreeing to begin negotiations on their grievances. [REDACTED]

Three members of the union leadership have arrived in Radom to gather information on the situation, and Walesa is slated to go there on Monday. The workers have said they will stage a two-hour "warning" strike on Wednesday if the government has not yet agreed to begin talks. [REDACTED]

Demands for Party Reform

The apparently heated discussions at the meeting on Thursday of the commission preparing for the party congress suggest that liberals are continuing to push for internal party reform. The party leadership, which is trying to keep reforms within strict limits, has not yet developed a successful strategy for dealing with this pressure, which comes primarily from the rank and file, some provincial party leaders, and a handful of party liberals. Some young party members who belong to Solidarity are leading the drive for change. [REDACTED]

The party leadership has relied thus far principally on delaying tactics, and party chief Kania indicated that the congress might not be convened before midsummer. This additional delay may not sit well with the reformers who want an early congress. [REDACTED]

Party leaders may intend to stage a showdown with the reformist forces in the coming weeks. Kania indicated that a Central Committee plenum would soon be held to discuss ideological and internal party organizational matters, including the sensitive matter of

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procedures for electing delegates to the congress. At least one local reformist party organization has already elected its delegates without waiting for instructions or nominees from the center. [REDACTED]

Church Statement

Leaders of the Catholic Church have again spoken out for moderation and calm. The statement yesterday of the 77-member Episcopal Conference appeared to convey words of warning both to the government and to the workers. It appealed to the new unions to maintain discipline and prudence in the face of provocation and told the government that Poland should not become a land of political prisoners. The bishops also declared that they did not want to be dragged into political activity. [REDACTED]